

§ 514.6 Designation.

(a) Upon a favorable determination that the proposed exchange program meets all statutory and regulatory requirements, the Agency may, in its sole discretion, designate an entity meeting the eligibility requirements set forth in § 514.3 as an exchange visitor program sponsor.

(b) Designation shall confer upon the sponsor authority to engage in one or more activities specified in § 514.4. A sponsor shall not engage in activities not specifically authorized in its written designation.

(c) Designations are effective for a period of five years. In its discretion, the Agency may designate programs, including experimental programs, for less than five years.

(d) Designations are not transferable or assignable.

§ 514.7 Redesignation.

(a) Upon expiration of a given designation term, a sponsor may seek redesignation for another five-year term.

(b) To apply for redesignation, a sponsor shall advise the Exchange Visitor Program Services by letter or by so indicating on the annual report.

(c) Request for redesignation shall be evaluated according to the criteria set forth at § 514.6(a) taking into account the sponsor's annual reports and other documents reflecting its record as an exchange visitor program sponsor.

(d) A sponsor seeking redesignation should notify the Agency, as set forth in (b) of this section, no less than four months prior to the expiration date of its designation. A sponsor seeking redesignation may continue to operate its program(s) until such time as the Agency notifies it of a decision to amend or terminate its designation.

§ 514.8 General program requirements.

(a) *Size of program.* Sponsors, other than Federal government agencies, shall have no less than five exchange visitors per calendar year. The Agency may in its discretion and for good cause shown reduce this requirement.

(b) *Minimum duration of program.* Sponsors, other than federal government agencies, shall provide each exchange visitor, except short-term scholars, with a minimum period of

participation in the United States of three weeks.

(c) *Reciprocity.* In the conduct of their exchange programs, sponsors shall make a good faith effort to achieve the fullest possible reciprocity in the exchange of persons.

(d) *Cross-cultural activities.* Sponsors shall:

(1) Offer or make available to exchange visitors a variety or appropriate cross-cultural activities. The extent and types of the cross-cultural activities shall be determined by the needs and interests of the particular category of exchange visitor. Sponsors will be responsible to determine the appropriate type and number of cross-cultural programs for their exchange visitors. The Agency encourages sponsors to give their exchange visitors the broadest exposure to American society, culture and institutions; and

(2) Encourage exchange visitors to voluntarily participate in activities which are for the purpose of sharing the language, culture, or history of their home country with Americans, provided such activities do not delay the completion of the exchange visitors' programs.

§ 514.9 General obligations of sponsors.

(a) *Adherence to agency regulations.* Sponsors are required to adhere to all regulations set forth in this part.

(b) *Legal status.* Sponsors shall maintain legal status. A change in a sponsor's legal status (e.g. partnership to corporation) shall require application for designation of the new legal entity.

(c) *Accreditation and licensure.* Sponsors shall remain in compliance with all local, state, federal, and professional requirements necessary to carry out the activity for which they are designated, including accreditation and licensure, if applicable.

(d) *Representations and disclosures.* Sponsors shall:

(1) Provide accurate and complete information, to the extent lawfully permitted, to the Agency regarding their exchange visitor programs and exchange visitors;

(2) Provide only accurate information to the public when advertising their exchange visitor programs or responding to public inquiries;

(3) Provide informational materials to prospective exchange visitors which clearly explain the activities, costs, conditions, and restrictions of the program;

(4) Not use program numbers on any advertising materials or publications intended for general circulation; and

(5) Not represent that any program is endorsed, sponsored, or supported by the Agency or the United States Government, except for United States Government sponsors or exchange visitor programs financed directly by the United States Government to promote international educational exchanges. However, sponsors may represent that they are designated by the Agency as a sponsor of an exchange visitor program.

(e) *Financial responsibility.* (1) Sponsors shall maintain the financial capability to meet at all times their financial obligations and responsibilities attendant to successful sponsorship of their exchange visitor programs.

(2) The Agency may require non-government sponsors to provide evidence satisfactory to the Agency that funds necessary to fulfill all obligations and responsibilities attendant to sponsorship of exchange visitors are readily available and in the sponsor's control, including such supplementary or explanatory financial information as the Agency may deem appropriate such as, for example, audited financial statements.

(3) The Agency may require any non-government sponsor to secure a payment bond in favor of the Agency guaranteeing all financial obligations arising from the sponsorship of exchange visitors.

(f) *Staffing and support services.* Sponsors shall ensure:

(1) Adequate staffing and sufficient support services to administer their exchange visitor programs; and

(2) That their employees, officers, agents, and third parties involved in the administration of their exchange visitor programs are adequately qualified, appropriately trained, and comply

with the Exchange Visitor Program regulations.

(g) *Appointment of responsible officer.*

(1) The sponsor shall appoint a responsible officer and such alternate responsible officers as may be necessary to perform the duties set forth at § 514.11.

(2) The responsible officer and alternate responsible officers shall be employees or officers of the sponsor. The Agency may, however, in its discretion, authorize the appointment of an individual who is not an employee or officer to serve as an alternate responsible officer, when approved by the sponsor.

(3) The Agency may limit the number of alternate responsible officers appointed by the sponsor.

§ 514.10 Program administration.

Sponsors are responsible for the effective administration of their exchange visitor programs. These responsibilities include:

(a) *Selection of exchange visitors.* Sponsors shall provide a system to screen and select prospective exchange visitors to ensure that they are eligible for program participation, and that:

(1) The program is suitable to the exchange visitor's background, needs, and experience; and

(2) The exchange visitor possesses sufficient proficiency in the English language to participate in his or her program.

(b) *Pre-arrival information.* Sponsors shall provide exchange visitors with pre-arrival materials including, but not limited to, information on:

(1) The purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program;

(2) Home-country physical presence requirement;

(3) Travel and entry into the United States;

(4) Housing;

(5) Fees payable to the sponsor;

(6) Other costs that the exchange visitor will likely incur (e.g., living expenses) while in the United States;

(7) Health care and insurance; and

(8) Other information which will assist exchange visitors to prepare for their stay in the United States.